

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the consideration given the present application. The Office Action of **December 3, 2001**, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Applicant respectfully submits that this response is timely filed. Concurrently filed herewith is a *Request for a One (1) Month Extension of Time* that extends the shortened statutory period for response until April 3, 2002. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this response is timely filed and fully responsive to the Office Action.

Claims 1 and 3-38 were pending in the present application prior to the aforementioned amendment. By the above actions, new claims 39-44 are added. Applicant submits that no issue of new matter is raised by this amendment and that said amendment does not raise new issues which require a further consideration and/or search. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 12-17, 19-23, 25-35 and 37-44 are currently pending in the present application and, at least for the reasons set forth below, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

A. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Examiner rejects claims 1-10, 12-17, 19-23, 25-35, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,011,533 to *Aoki* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,040,816 to *Uchino*. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground for rejection for at least the reasons solicited below.

1. The Proposed *Aoki* Modification Fails to Teach the Claimed Invention

The claimed invention is directed generally to a display device including, *inter alia*, a circuit for producing a phase difference in a second signal with respect to a phase of a first signal which is input to a signal line driving circuit or to a scanning line driving circuit. In

accordance with the claimed invention, the first signal has a reversed phase relation with the second signal. Such features are non-obviously advantageous in creating the ability to generate a plurality of noises comprising a peak having a small amplitude. See, FIG. 3.

Applicant respectfully contends that the claims presently define subject matter which is clearly patentably distinct over the prior art of record. More particularly, it is contended that *Aoki*, either alone or in combination with *Uchino*, clearly fails to expressly teach or inherently describe each and every limitation necessary to render the claimed invention obvious under §103.

For instance, the Examiner finds that *Aoki* discloses an image display device comprising “a producing circuit (32) for producing a phase difference in a second signal with respect to a phase of a first signal which is inputted to signal line driving circuit (104) or to scanning line driving circuit (102).” The Examiner concedes, however, that *Aoki* fails to disclose that the “first signal has a reversed phase relation with second signal.” The Examiner states that such a difference does not impart patentability in view of the teachings of *Uchino*, which allegedly discloses an active matrix display device comprising a phase adjusting unit (3) which phase adjusts a primary sampling pulses to secondary clock signals which are the same or different from primary clock signals.

In spite of the Examiner’s findings, there is no showing that *Uchino* discloses what is specifically required by the claimed invention, namely, a display device including a circuit for producing a reversed phase difference in a second signal with respect to a phase of a first signal. Accordingly, the proposed combination of *Uchino* with *Aoki* still fails to read on every claim feature defined by the claimed invention. Inasmuch as both *Aoki* and *Uchino* fail to expressly teach or implicitly suggest the claimed invention, *prima facie* obviousness cannot result.

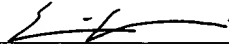
2. The Newly Added Claims are Patentably Distinct

Applicant further contends that newly added claims 39-44 are patentably distinct over the proposed combination of *Aoki* and *Uchino* since they incorporate by reference the claim features of base claims 1, 8, 14, 21, 27 and 33. This fact notwithstanding, claims 39-44 define additional subject matter that would further patentably distinguish the claimed invention. For instance, in accordance with each claim, a length of the phase difference is at least a signal rise time period (t_r) of the first signal or a signal fall time period (t_f) of the first signal, and shorter than a half of a signal holding time period (t_c). Such a feature is not expressly taught or inherently described by the proposed combination of *Aoki* and *Uchino*.

Conclusion

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in proper condition for allowance and consideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections are requested. If the Examiner believes further discussions with Applicant's representative would be beneficial in this case, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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